

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 /105 W

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R 072314Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1816

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA UNN

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4079

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN UNGA

SUBJ: SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION: COMMITTEE DYNAMICS AND THE
PROTECTION OF THE USG PROPOSALS

1. THE KEY FIGURE IN THE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE OF THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION IS DUTCH MINISTER PRONK (USUN 4069). HE CHAIRS THE SOLE "SUBSTANTIVE" COMMITTEE, THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. HE ALSO CHAIRS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTACT AND NEGOTIATIONS SUB-GROUPS ESTABLISHED BY THE AHCW, I.E., THE WEO/G-77 CONTACT GROUP, AND NEGOTIATING GROUP NUMBER ONE DEALING WITH THE TWO KEY TOPICS--RESOURCE TRANSFERS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

2. THE US DELEGATION HAS HAD FREQUENT OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO PRONK. OUR POSITIONS HAVE BEEN FRANKLY EXPLAINED TO HIM. HE UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THIS SESSION, BOT IN TERMS OF THE ROLE OF THE UN AND THE WIDER QUESTION OF FINDING WAYS TO PROCEED WITH THE BUSINESS OF ESTABLISHING NEW UNDERSTANDINGS AND RELATIONSHIPS REQUIRED IF WE ARE TO SERIOUSLY IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL
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ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

3. THE CONVERSATIONS THAT AMB MOYNIHAN, AMB MYERSON AND OTHERS OF THE US DELEGATION HAVE HAD WITH PRONK HAVE HAD GOOD EFFECT. WE HAD OUR WAY, AGAINST PRONK'S APPARENT JUDGMENT, IN INSISTING THAT THE AHCW AND THE WEO/G-77 PROCEED IN DELIBERATE, PRAGMATIC FASHION DURING THE FIRST WEEK. THE AGREEMENT TO UNDERTAKE A QUICK FIRST READING OF THE POSITION PAPERS OF THE EC-9, THE G-77 AND THE US WITH VIEW TO IDENTIFYING AREAS OF CONSONANCE WAS A US PROPOSAL, SUPPORTED BY THE G-77 FOR ITS OWN REASONS DESPITE A CONTRARY VIEW BY THE EC-9 AND PERSONAL WISHES OF PRONK. BY FORCING THIS APPROACH THE US DELEGATION PRESERVED AND NURTURED AN ACCEPTABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR FUTURE SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS, AND CREATED ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROPAGATING THE US POSITION AND PROPOSALS. ADDITIONAL TIME WAS BOUGHT, A CRUCIAL FACTOR FOR US IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE G-77 PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN ON THE TABLE FOR SOME MONTHS, THE EC-9 POSITIONS FOR SOME WEEKS, WHILE THE US PROPOSALS MORE COMPREHENSIVE AND CONCRETE THAN EITHER OF THE OTHER TWO "SERIOUS" POSITIONS, WERE REVEALED ONLY AT THE OPENING OF THE SESSION.

4. WE ARE NOW MOVING INTO THE CRITICAL FOUR TO FIVE DAYS OF TOUGH, DETAILED NEGOTIATION. WE HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE CORRIDORS WITH KEY LDC DELEGATION, EUROPEANS (ESPECIALLY UK), AND PRONK. WE ARE EMPHASIZING (A) OUR DETERMINATION TO REACH AGREEMENT IF POSSIBLE; (B) OUR FLEXIBILITY; AND (C) THE NECESSITY OF A BALANCED OUTCOME TAKING FULL ACCOUNT OF US PROPOSALS AND POSITIONS.
MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, POLICIES, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN TRADE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchandr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN04079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750309-0643
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750975/aaaacojg.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchandr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by buchandr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION: COMMITTEE DYNAMICS AND THE PROTECTION OF THE USG PROPOSALS
TAGS: EGEN, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006